



MOTTINGHAM SILKS KINETIKA FLAGS

This resource pack is designed to inspire you to get creative. It will support you through a step-by-step process in creating the design for one or more of the flags for the Mottingham Silks project.



ABOUT MURSHIDABAD SILK

Kinetika is an importer of this heritage-quality hand-woven silk from West Bengal. Sales support Kinetika's charitable work and help the weavers to continue their skilled craft. Murshidabad silk is now our preferred choice when making batik flags due to its ability to hold bright dye colours and the soft but durable texture.

Kinetika is internationally renowned for creating stunning large-scale hand-painted silks, using the process of batik to make beautiful flags, costumes and products for the last 25 years. While developing the Silk River project in India, Kinetika was introduced to a very fine, high quality 100% hand-woven silk from Murshidabad, a district in West Bengal.



Kinetika were very keen to work with this exquisite silk and through the Crafts Council of West Bengal (CCWB) were able to connect directly with the local weavers who still had the original looms and the required level of skill. Realising that the weaving skill required for this heritage fabric is in danger of being lost, Kinetika is now working closely with Ajoy, a local silk merchant and CCWB to make it available in the UK to silk painters and lovers who will appreciate how unique it is.

The silk is woven in Dangapara, a small village in Murshidabad by 14 families of weavers who are the last generation who have this skill. Kinetika hope that by creating a new demand for this silk, they will encourage this community to continue this ancient tradition.

Find out more, and purchase, from <https://kinetika.co.uk/about-murshidabad-silk>



KINETIKA
DESIGN THAT MOVES

Cover image: A Sir Eduardo Paolozzi
stained glass Millenium window at
St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh
ALAMY / EYE UBIQUITOUS

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A selection of flags designed and made by community groups with Kinetika

INTRODUCING MOTTINGHAM SILKS

Working in partnership with StEP and St Edwards Church, international arts organisation, Kinetika will engage a wide range of people in the MBLR (Mottingham Big Local Refocused) to design and make a set of silk flags that reflect the area, and the people that live in it. Artistic Director, Ali

Pretty and Kinetika artists Lisa Meehan and Sarah Doyle will lead a series of design and silk painting workshops in spring 2022. We are inviting local organisations and participants to take part in creating a series of 30 silk flags representing a wide range of different groups and communities

in the Mottingham Estate. The finished flags will then be displayed and celebrated at community events throughout the summer. Next autumn the project will continue with designing and making eight new silk hangings for St Edwards Church to be a permanent display in 2023.

ABOUT StEP

StEP evolved as a driver for the redevelopment of St Edwards Church Site and operated as a sub group of the Church Council. Now a registered charity, StEP works in partnership with the Church and local community organisations. We are in Mottingham and offer community activities and projects throughout the week. We hold appointment based Counselling services, with training courses, afternoon tea events and themed events taking place throughout the year.

Find us on Facebook or <https://step-community.org.uk> for more information and contact details.



ABOUT ST EDWARDS

St Edwards is a community church which runs several projects, like Mottingham Foodbank, boxing, dance, film nights and community fairs. Many groups, like StEP, Big Local, local schools and individuals, also use the space for other projects. It is exciting to work with Kinetika and all these groups to create something beautiful for Mottingham.



ABOUT BIG LOCAL

Mottingham Big Local Refocused is a community project run by a Partnership Board made up of local residents and organisations. Big Local schemes are led by local residents who decide how to spend the funding.

Big Locals are funded by the Lottery. Each Big Local aims to 'bring together all the local talent, ambitions, skills and energy from individuals, groups and organisations who want to make their area an even better place to live'.



ABOUT KINETIKA



Kinetika is an internationally renowned company, specialising in creating large-scale handpainted silks. For over 20 years we have been combining world-class design with community projects to produce spectacular outdoor commissions that engage diverse audiences wherever they work. Founded by artistic director Ali Pretty in 1997 and inspired by her training in carnival arts in Trinidad and India,

Kinetika now has an unrivalled reputation for working with local communities on projects that change the way people feel about where they live. From local community walks in Essex to high streets and city squares across the UK, out to the Great Wall of China, Ethiopia and West Bengal. In 2020/1 Kinetika responded to the challenge of Covid-19 and produced projects with communities in Essex,

the Thames Estuary and Milton Keynes, developing online resources to facilitate the designs of flags working with local communities.

Have a look at this film of making the Milton Keynes Flags with community groups. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5vbJ4t00zQ&t=15s>

kinetika.co.uk



Top row:
Land of the Fanns
community flags;
second row:
Milton Keynes
community flags

THEMES and TAKING PART

We are delighted to invite you to take part in creating the Nottingham Silks.

This resource pack is to inspire you to get creative with your family and friends and to support you through a step-by-step process in creating the design for one or more of the flags.

We will be working with you and your groups to design a set of 30 beautiful silk flags that reflect the community of the MBLR.

We have taken inspiration from all the groups we've visited, and contemporary stained glass artists, so that our designs work together as a coherent collective artwork.

We will go through this with you in an introductory Zoom session on 13th January and a hands-on design workshop on 17th February (see page 10).

The deadline for design ideas is 18th February. Working with four local artists, the Kinetika team will finalise the patterns for the collection of flags, waxing the outlines onto silk and return to Nottingham to lead silk painting workshops in the community.

Alongside the activities outlined in this pack there will be a face-to-face drawing and design day with Lisa Meehan in Nottingham (see page 10).

Once you have completed your designs, they will be sent to the Kinetika Design Studio where the team of artists will scale up and finalise the designs.

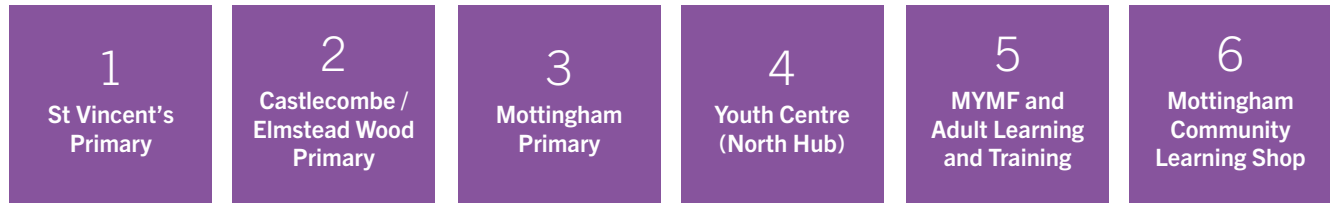


A community flag project in Grays, Essex. From top: Flag drawings, painting the silks, and the finished designs

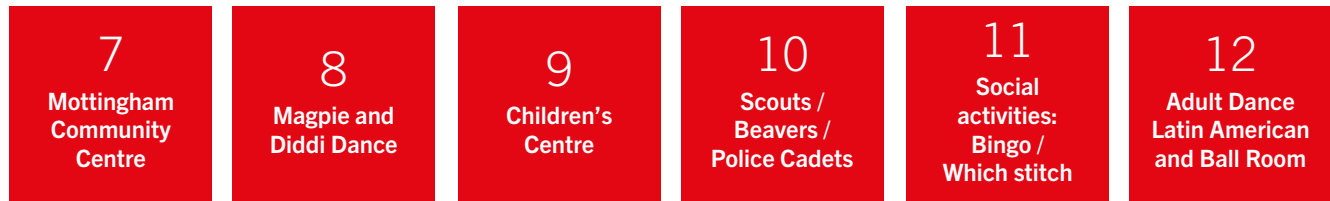
30 FLAGS

Each flag is 80cm x 80cm. They are grouped into the following themes and will give a starting point for design discussions and interactive Zoom sessions.

Education



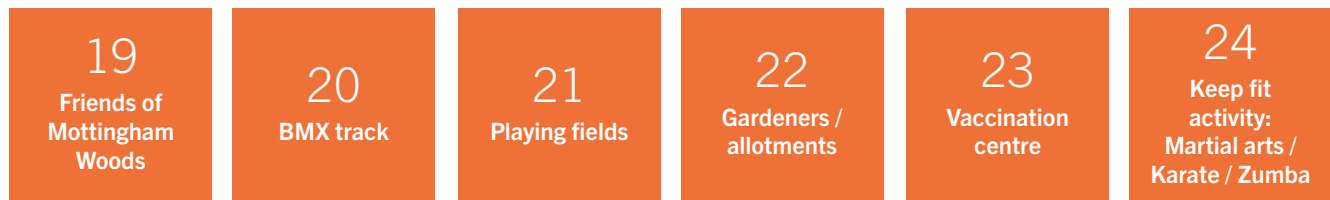
Activity in the community



Local business and traders



Environment / healthy living



Heritage



Mottingham local traders



Youth Centre



St Vincent's Primary

KINETIKA FLAG ARTISTS



ALI PRETTY

Ali's artistic direction and hand-painted silk designs are renowned

for their quality, both in their individual style as well as their ability to engage and leave lasting legacies in communities and individuals alike. In 2015, Ali was commissioned to create 12 large-scale silks for the Royal Opera House's Paul Hamlyn Hall during the Deloitte Ignite Festival.



SARAH DOYLE

After graduating university, Sarah worked for ten years in the early

years education sector and has always had a passion for art and inspiring creativity in young people. Sarah is currently a cake artist specialising in creating sugar models and bespoke cakes. After designing a flag for the Tilbury carnival in 2019, she soon fell in love with batik and creating stunning silk flags with Kinetika. Sarah has been working as an artist with Kinetika for the past 18 months, supporting several projects including T100 mandalas, Grays community flags, Carnival Gold and Beach of Dreams. Sarah loves working with communities and individuals to help bring their ideas and creativity to life.

TIMELINE

DECEMBER

Receive your pack - start thinking about your ideas

JANUARY

Design activities at home or in groups, following the guidelines in the pack

FEBRUARY

17th Hands-on workshop; 18th deadline for designs to be submitted



LISA MEEHAN

Lisa has been an artist with Kinetika for the past four years, leading and participating in multiple projects including Silk River, Norwich Circus 250 and Neasden Temple Scrolls. Lisa runs drawing, painting and printmaking workshops. After graduating from university, Lisa led a team at a historical fine art print studio, working from original illustrations at the Natural History Museum, and produced watercolour samples for collectable limited edition prints of the Banks Florilegium, Karl Bodmer's Illustrations, and Ferdinand Bauer's Botanical Illustrations.



Digital capture

Each of the finished individual designs will be photographed, and these pictures will form an online gallery which will see the design married to the description that the individual had created.



Presentation of flags

The set of 30 flags will be presented in public open spaces in summer 2022. All the people involved will have times set aside when they are encouraged to come and view their flags.



After the event, flags will be either retained for collective use, displayed at other events or returned to the community group.

MARCH

Designs completed and traced onto silk in Kinetika Studios

APRIL

Silk painting workshops in Nottingham

MAY

JUNE

Creation of on-line gallery of designs and stories

DESIGNING YOUR FLAG

Sign up to our online introductory session to guide you through the process from ideas to complete design. This will be supplemented by a one-day hands-on design and drawing workshop with Lisa Meehan. Meet other group leaders and find out more about the project. We will explore the themes and think about which ones you'd like to focus on and how many flags you would like to design. Take these ideas back to your groups and get started.



INTRO SESSION:

**Thursday 13th January,
6:30pm-7:30pm, on Zoom.**



HANDS-ON DESIGN WORKSHOP:

**Thursday 17th February,
12noon-4pm and 5pm-7pm
at St Edwards Church.
With Lisa Meehan.**

IN PREPARATION FOR THE DESIGN DAY

What does your group represent?

Who belongs to the group?

Where do you meet?

School and community groups will come together to think about ideas for their flag design. Brainstorm ideas, collect images, photographs, logos, articles, stories and anything that will help you start to create ideas for your flag.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

1 CREATE A COLLAGE

a) Create a collage of your school, house, church or buildings in the town, local trees, plants, and wildlife. Give it a personal twist by adding your own images, photos, favourite colours, textures, patterns, fabrics,



wallpapers, wrappers, labels etc. You can photocopy or print and cut out images from the web.

b) Create a mosaic collage using lots of small pieces of paper. Collect together a variety of different coloured papers, old wallpaper, wrapping paper or packaging. Cut up into small pieces that resemble mosaic tiles. Draw your image and stick the pieces down to create a mosaic design.

Think about colours from light to dark, contrasting colours, colours that create a mood, patterns and textures. Maybe include written words and text, your values and motto, to make it more personal.



2 DRAWING AND SKETCHING

Reflect on your theme in your groups or individually. What images would you like to see portrayed on your Nottingham Silk Flag? Maybe landmark buildings, parks, a favourite walk, landscape, trees and plants, notable people, friends, family, clubs and groups. You might like to include words or a logo. Start drawing. You don't have

Use the following topics to help your research and ideas.....

EDUCATION

School logo, lettering and values, school mosaic, playground images, surrounding woods, history of your school or group, map or layout.

ACTIVITY IN THE COMMUNITY

List your activities - which are your favourite? Who takes part, where do they happen?

LOCAL BUSINESS & TRADERS

Logo or trademark of your business. What do you sell or make? Local street map, old photos.

ENVIRONMENT / HEALTHY LIVING

Flora and Fauna in Nottingham - animals, plants and trees. Outdoor sports and activities - where do they take place?

HERITAGE

Mottingham history and stories, old maps, images of woods, forest and original farm land, local people in history, local churches, historical events.

Right, top to bottom: Some inspiration - Byzantine mosaic, Antoni Gaudí and Eduardo Paolozzi



ALAMY / EYE UBQUITOUS, SHUTTERSTOCK

to be good at drawing, you can trace your favourite image and draw over with a black pen. You can also include photocopied images, photographs and magazine pictures which can be enlarged and drawn again for our final design.

Collect leaves from your garden or park and make leaf rubbings with a wax crayon. These can be painted over with watercolours to create a mosaic effect and give a good reference of local plant life. You can also draw local trees and plants to add to the catalogue.

3 BORDER PATTERN: COLOUR AND DESIGN

Create a pattern for a border from images and drawings that reflect your theme and Nottingham town.



Select images that would work well as a pattern, draw or photocopy several times to create a repeat. Decide on colour ways for each of the themed groups.

4 HANDS-ON WORKSHOP: COMPOSITION AND CONSTRUCTION

What images are going inside your template design? Consider the theme with your group.

Bring everything you have created along to this session, don't discard any images. Include photographs, the collages, drawings, images of local architecture, buildings, parks, landscape, road maps, etc.

On your large sheet of dot and cross paper begin to lay out your images, considering the overall composition, shape and pattern the images are creating. Some images can be enlarged and drawn with a black marker.

When you are all happy with your overall design you can cut and tape the images on the paper template ready to be taken to the Kinetika studio to be scaled up and transferred onto silk with wax. We will then paint the colours according to your design ideas.



THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN

MOTTINGHAM SILKS KINETIKA FLAGS

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR WONDERFUL DESIGNS



KINETIKA
DESIGN THAT MOVES



MOTTINGHAM
BIG LOCAL REFOCUSSED

Growing Together



ST
EDWARDS
CHURCH

STEP

